

WEBSTER'S  
DICTIONARY.  
SIX DOLLARS ONLY.  
AT  
The Hongkong Telegraph,  
Office.

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

NEW SERIES No. 881.

日十三月三年四十二精光

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1898.

三拜禮

號十二月四英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS  
PER ANNUM.

## BANKS.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.  
ESTABLISHED 1858

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ..... Yen 12,000,000  
PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... 3,000,000  
RESERVE FUND ..... 6,000,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.—  
KOBE NEW YORK  
LONDON LYONS  
SAN FRANCISCO HONOLULU  
BOMBAY SHANGHAI

LONDON BANKERS:  
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LTD.  
PARKS' BANK, LTD.  
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LTD.

HONGKONG:—INTEREST ALLOWED:  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent  
per Annum on the daily balance.

On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

6 " 4 "  
3 " 3 "

S. CHOUH, Agent.

Hongkong, 11th March, 1898. [352]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED.

Authorised Capital ..... £1,000,000  
Paid up Capital ..... 324,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors:—  
D. Gillies, Esq.  
J. T. Lauts, Esq. Chow Tung Shany, Esq.  
Chan Kit Shan, Esq. Kwai Ho Chien, Esq.  
Chief Manager: G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months, Fixed, 5 per Cent.  
On Current Account, Daily Balances 2 per  
Cent, per Annum.

Hongkong, 10th November, 1897. [2]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... \$10,000,000  
RESERVE FUND ..... \$ 8,000,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRTORS, \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:  
Hon. J. J. BILL-IRVING, Chairman.  
R. M. CRAV.—Deputy Chairman.  
C. Beermann, Esq.

G. B. Dodding, Esq. A. I. Raymond, Esq.  
G. B. Dodwell, Esq. R. L. Richardson, Esq.  
David Gabbay, Esq. R. Shaw, Esq.  
A. Haupt, Esq. N. A. Siebs, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:  
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.  
MANAGER:  
Shanghai—J. E. WADE GARDNER, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY  
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per Cent.  
per Annum on the daily balance.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:  
For 3 months, 2½ per Cent. per Annum.  
For 6 months, 3½ per Cent. per Annum.  
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1898. [9]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted  
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be  
obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ per  
Cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option  
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND  
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED  
DEPOSIT AT 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1898. [10]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.  
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP ..... £800,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-  
HOLDERS ..... £800,000  
RESERVE FUND ..... £75,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT  
ACCOUNT at the Rate of 2 per cent., per  
Minuit on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months, 4 per cent.

" " 3 " 3 " 3 " 3 "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1897. [11]

Entertainment.

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS.

PROMENADE CONCERT

OPEN AIR THEATRICALS

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES,

(by LADY CARRINGTON)

CH

SATURDAY, the 23rd April, 1898.

ADMISISON ..... 2½

The proceeds to be used in aid of the

Band Fund.

TICKETS at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO's.

Music Depot.

In the event of unavoidable weather the

entertainment will take place in the CITY HALL

Hongkong, 18th April, 1898. [12]

MASONIC.

VICTORIA CHAPTER,

No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION of  
VICTORIA CHAPTER will be held at  
the FREEMASONS' HALL, on MONDAY,  
the 25th instant, at 8 fm. 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visit  
ing Companions are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 18th April, 1898. [13]

## Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR STEAMERS CAPTAINS TO SAIL REMARKS  
NAGASAKI &c. Brindisi .... C. H. Watkins, R.N.R. .... About 21st April ... Freight only.  
JAPAN, &c. Malacca\* .... E. R. Dowell, R.N.R. .... About 28th April ... Freight or Passage.  
SHANGHAI .... Bengal .... L. M. Wilmer, R.N.R. .... About 19th April ... Freight or Passage.  
LONDON, &c. Verona\* .... C. H. S. Tocque, R.N.R. .... Noon, 30th April ... Freight or Passage.  
JAP. .... Rosita\* .... E. P. Bishop .... Daylight, 1st May ... Freight or Passage.  
LONDON .... Manila .... R. L. Hidcock, R.N.R. .... About 5th May ... Freight or Passage.  
LONDON .... Formosa .... A. G. Cubitt, R.N.R. .... About 12th May ... Freight or Passage.  
(Passing through the Inland Sea.)

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 20th April, 1898. [14]

JUST LANDED.  
SAINT RAPHAEL WINE.

A STRENGTHENING,  
DIGESTIVE TONIC WINE.

Prescribed for Bronchitis, Malaria, and during convalescence.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.,

Sole Agents. [15]

TRY THE

CURRY

AT THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

CALIFORNIA HOCK &RIESLING.

GENUINE GRAPE WINES, EXCELLENT VALUE.

H. PRICE & CO.,  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
No. 12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Hongkong, 14th April, 1898. [16]

THE CLUB HOTEL,  
LIMITED.

No. 5-B, BUND, POKOHAMA.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL Centrally situated, well furnished and supplied with excellent Cuisine and Good Wines.

The Company's Steam-launch attends the arrival and departure of all Mail Steamers.

Special attention paid to the comfort of visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897. [17]

W. POWELL & CO.

Ex. S.S. CANTON.

OUR SUMMER STOCK

OF  
ART MUSLINS  
AND  
LACE CURTAINS.

AND SOME VERY PRETTY SPECIALITIES. [18]

## Intimations.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL  
AGENCY LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN  
HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,  
FOR THE  
UNITED ASBESTOS COMPANY, LIMITED, LONDON,  
CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.  
MANUFACTURERS OF THE  
BEST QUALITIES OF ASBESTOS GOODS AND PACKINGS.  
HYDRAULIC AND SELF LUBRICATING PUMP PACKINGS OF ALL KINDS.  
"VICTOR" METALLIC BOILER JOINTS.  
ASBESTOS SALAMANDER BOILER COVERING COMPOSITION OF THE BEST QUANTITIES,  
ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR EVERY DESCRIPTION OF WORK.  
SUPERINTENDENT. THOS. SKINNER.  
DODWELL, CARLILL & CO., General Agents.

## Auctions.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.  
No. 163.

THE following particulars and conditions of  
Sale of Crown Land by Public Auction,  
to be held on the spot, on  
MONDAY,  
the 25th day of April, 1898, at 3 P.M., are  
published for general information:  
By Command,  
T. SERCOMBE SMITH,  
Acting Colonial Secretary,  
Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Hongkong, 18th April, 1898. [19]

Particulars and conditions of the letting by  
Public Auction Sale, to be held on Monday, the  
25th day of April, 1898, at 3 P.M., by Order  
of His Excellency the Governor, of one lot  
of CROWN LAND in the Colony, of Hongkong,  
for a term of 999 years.

## PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

Lot No.	Boundary Measurements.	Locality.	General Description.	Annual Rent.	Upset Price.
1	ft. ft. ft. ft. ft. ft.	ft. ft. ft. ft. ft. ft.	ft. ft. ft. ft. ft. ft.	£ £ £ £ £ £	£ £ £ £ £ £

## BY ORDER OF THE COURT.

### PUBLIC AUCTION.

MESSRS. HUGHES and HOUGH have  
received instructions from BRUCE  
SHEPHERD, Esq., the Official Receiver of the  
estate of TSO CHONG, in Bankruptcy, acting  
under an Order of the Supreme Court of  
Hongkong, to sell by

### PUBLIC AUCTION

### ON

### TUESDAY,

the 3rd May, at 10 o'clock P.M.,  
at their office, Praya Central, the following  
VALUABLE RECLAMATION PROPERTY.

All the benefit, interest and advantage of  
and in the RECLAMATION AGREEMENT  
of MARINE LOT No. 199.

The sale is made with the concurrence of all  
parties interested.

The RECLAMATION has been completed and is  
ready for building purposes, and possession has  
been given by the GOVERNMENT.

The RECLAMATION has a frontage to the  
New Praya of 165 feet, 8 inches, with a depth  
of 160 feet, and contains an area of 26,507  
square feet.

One half of the last installment of the  
money due under the RECLAMATION AGREEMENT  
(amounting to \$7,616) remains to be paid if  
called up, and the sale will be subject to this  
and to the payment of the ANNUAL CROWN  
RENT of \$48.

The PROPERTY will be first offered in ONE  
LOT, and if not sold as ONE LOT will be put up  
in TWO.

For further particulars and conditions of sale  
apply to

Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,

the auctioneers;

or to

Messrs. DEACON & HASTINGS,

35, Queen's Road,

Vendor's solicitors.

[20]

## W. BREWER & CO.

### JUST LANDED.

NEW AND LARGE STOCK OF LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S

BOOTS AND SHOES

BEST ENGLISH MAKE.

QUEEN'S ROAD,  
Hongkong, 10th February, 1898. [16]

## CHAMPAGNE.

**Today's  
Advertisements.**

HONGKONG ODD VOLUMES SOCIETY.  
EVENING MEETING.

THERE will be an EVENING MEETING of this SOCIETY, in St. ANDREW'S HALL at the CITY HALL, TO-NIGHT, the 20th of April, at 9.30 P.M., at which experiments in Electrical Discharge and exhibitions of the Graphophone and Phonograph and Microscope will be held.

Ladies are invited and members may ask their friends.

HENRY E. POLLOCK,  
Hon. Secretary.

18, Bank Buildings, 1898. [54]

V. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by PUBLIC AUCTION,

on

WEDNESDAY, the 27th April, 1898,

AT 11 A.M.

At ARMY ORDNANCE STORES,

Queen's Road East

THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT STORES:—CARTS and WAGONS, AWNINGS for Boats and Steam Launches, ANCHORS IRON CHAIN, GRAPNELS, SIGNAL LAMPS, BRASS, COPPER, GUNMETAL, ROPE, LINEN, COTTON and WOOLLEN RAGS, CANVAS, CAST and WROUGHT IRON WATER CASKS, PACKING CASES, IRON DRUMS, WATERPROOF BAGS, OZOKERITE SALVE, OAKUM White and Tarned, BOAT MASTS and SAILS, LAMP CHIMNEYS and BRASS SOCKETS, DRILLING BELTING, &c., &c.

Also

A QUANTITY OF PART WORN CLOTHING and 10 KNOTS of ELECTRIC CABLE.

Catalogues can be obtained from the CHIEF ORDNANCE OFFICER or from the CONTRACTOR.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash on delivery. All faults and errors of description at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer. All Lots to be cleared within 48 hours.

HUGHES & HOUGH,  
Agents.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [546]

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM BONUS of TWENTY per cent upon contributions for the year 1897 has been Declared.

WARRANTS will be issued on the 9th May, By order of the Board.

N. J. EDK,  
Secretary.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [551]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENSIN.

THE Company's Steamship

"KWEIYANG,"

Captain Outerbridge, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 25th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Agents.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [550]

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUZU CANAL.

THE Steamship

"QUEEN MARGARET,"

will be despatched as above on or about the 25th May, 1898.

To be followed by

S.S. "ST. NINIAN," on or about 15th June, 1898.

S.S. "CRAIGEARN," on or about 30th June, 1898.

For Freight, &c., apply to

SHEWAN, TOME & CO.

Agents.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [548]

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBOROUGH, ANTWERP, SOUTHAMPTON AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"SANUKI MARU,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Optimal goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before MOON, TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 27th instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

All ship-damaged packages must be left in the Godowns and a certificate of the damage sustained from the Godown Company within ten days after this vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognized.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [547]

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBROUGH, LONDON AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"MERIONETHSHIRE,"

Captain Davies, having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where delivery can be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Optimal goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before MOON, TO-DAY.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be remitted by

SHEWAN, TOME & CO.

Agents.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1898. [545]

**Estimations.**

DAKIN, CRUCKSHANK & COMPANY,  
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,  
HONGKONG.

**AERATED WATERS.**

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARASPARILLA.

R ASPBEERRYADE, &c.

Hongkong Legislature and China Association must take vigorous action.

The present outbreak of plague in the colony is a much more serious matter than many people are inclined to believe. Cases of the disease are now reported from some of the busiest and most populous parts of Queen's Road, and we have it on good authority that there are more cases being taken over to Chinese Kowloon just now than there were even in 1894. In fact rows of matches are being erected along the beach outside Kowloon City for the accommodation of the ailing ones. As we have before remarked, the only wonder is that matters are not worse seeing the filthy state in which lanes and streets have been so long allowed to remain. There were object lessons in the past outbreaks but the sanitary authorities have profited little if at all by them.

Among many of what are called the "better class" of Chinese there has long been a feeling that it would help considerably in treating plague cases if a place could be set aside, thoroughly isolated of course, where Chinese patients could be treated after the fashion of their country. The Chinese physicians may not be remarkably skilled or scientific, judged by Western ideas, but the simple fact is that if we do not let the Chinese have their own methods they will have them without our letting. They are so irrevocably wedded to their own manners and customs that at a crisis like this it is out of the question for us to do anything except to let them have their own way and make the best we can of it. Let them have their methods of treatment and we will supervise as well as we can without frightening them. Otherwise if we once give them any suspicion or alarm our efforts are utterly useless because they work against us instead of with us and we cannot prevent it just now. Perhaps in the course of years we may be able to cure plague beyond all question, and by that time we may be able to convince the Chinese of the superiority of our methods. In the meantime we must recognise hard facts.

THE Captain Superintendent of Police, at yesterday's meeting of the Sanitary Board made a move that should go far towards saving a good deal of trouble in this direction. He proposed, and the Board agreed to it, that the Tang Wah committee should be approached with a view to having a branch hospital established at Kennedy-town, where the patients could have the option of being treated by European or Chinese doctors. The President of the Board abhorred at "Chinese doctors," and applied the term "quacks" to them. Dr. ARTHURSON's contempt for Chinese physicians, however, does not alter the facts of the case, and should effect be given to Mr. MAY's resolution, as in many Chinese doctors, it is pretty certain that it will have a beneficial result.

It would be interesting to us to know if the Sanitary authorities of the Colony are aware of the existence of a place called Stanley Street. It is not an unimportant thoroughfare and on Monday it was in a disgraceful state. The side channels or gutters were choked with great masses of semi-liquid filth, that fairly festered under the heat of the sun. The sight of the stuff and its abominable excretions were enough to turn the strongest of stomachs. With such remissness, on the part of those whose duty it is to attend to such matters there is little cause for wonder at the outbreak of any epidemic in the Colony.

A NATIVE official telegram reports that the foreign-modelled corps of 15,000 men under General Nieh, the Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Chihli, daily installed their Russian military instructors on the 11th April, the German instructors having all been dismissed the previous week.—*N. C. Daily News.*

In Shanghai an influential representative committee of all nationalities, with Sir Nicholas Hannen in the chair, had been formed to arrange for the reception of Prince Henry of Prussia by the general foreign community. It was proposed, with his assent, to entertain him at a tiffin at Chung Sabe's Garden on Tuesday, the 19th inst.

IN connection with the application of Mr. L. Silberman at the Licensing Court yesterday for the transfer of his publican's license to his wife, it was inadvertently stated that the name of his house was the Grand Hotel instead of the Globe Hotel. Mr. Silberman has been the proprietor of the Globe Hotel for the past six years and is now on a trip to Europe owing to ill-health.

THE funeral of the late first class gunner's mate Emil Brandt of the U.S.S. *Boston* took place yesterday afternoon. There was a large attendance of members of the sister services from the British ships and regiments, and the coffin, covered with the United States Jack was landed at the Ordnance wharf and placed in a hearse. The battalion fire droned with grape had a place in the carriage and the band of the Olympia led the way, playing Beethoven's "Funeral March" and other mournful music. The deceased was only lately been elected to Royal Arch Degree in St. Andrew's Chapter and many of the local Masons attended the funeral. The Fleet Chaplain (Rev. Mr. Fraser) conducted the first part of the ceremony at the grave side and afterwards R. W. Bro. W. Farmer conducted the Masonic burial service, with all the impressive sites of the ritual of the craft. Brandt was a very popular officer aboard his ship amongst all ranks. He was only 29 years of age and his death is attributed to an attack of typhoid fever.

AT the Magistracy to-day, Fakir Mahomed, Police Sergeant No. 542 was charged with misconduct as a Police constable, in assaulting a Chinaman, in the extorting of four fowls below market price, and the larceny of a fowl. Mr. M. W. Slade (inspected by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson) appeared for the defence. The case was brought up on remand, and, on the previous hearing evidence was given that Zola ought to be struck off the roll of the Legion of Honour.

**PIRACY ON THE WEST RIVER.**

MURDER AND PLUNDER

ROBBERS' AUDACITY INCREASING.  
[From our own Correspondent.]

CANTON, April 19th. Another West River piracy is reported to-day. This sort of thing ought to be stopped immediately. It is intolerable in these days. If Chinese waterways are to be "opened" to trade and yet closed and barred by lawlessness, we must ask with the American aristocrat Is civilization a failure? And is the Caucasian played out?

As likely as not, these outrages are encouraged by the mandarins for the sake of killing off all competition against the concerns in which they have a personal interest. At any rate, we know—the writer of this paragraph knows from personal experience—the authorised force of law and order in the Kwangtung Delta take a hand in undignified armed robbery of boats. Better a French protectorate than the present regime. The Chamber of Commerce, Navy League,

**PLAQUE STATISTICS.**

During the 24th he was up to noon, 19th April, 15 new cases and 16 deaths from plague were reported making the total since 1st January (to date) 407 cases and 430 deaths.

**LOCAL AND GENERAL.**

THE Russian cruiser *Mladost* *Moskva* left for Yunnan to-day.

THE Spring Races will be held on the 16th, 17th and 18th May. There are 23 events.

THE School Sports have been further postponed till Saturday next, at the request of the Golf Club.

A SPECULATIVE coolie who sneaked a fellow lodger's jacket to-day sent to prison for 6 weeks.

Li FA NO occupation, was to-day fined \$100, in default three months, for having 35 tails of illicit opium in his possession.

CHINE Inspector Hanson, Sergeant Gladie and P. C. Fisher raided a gambling house, No. 710 Jewell Street last night and captured five Chinese. They were brought up to-day and remained till the 22nd at noon. Bail in \$100 each was allowed.

A young man from Japan, named Di Kiba was to-day charged at the Magistracy with refusing to pay ten cents chair hire and also with doing \$1.50 worth of damage to a chair. He was fined \$5. or fourteen days and ordered to pay \$3 as compensation or go to ten days.

THE fact that all the U. S. warships had their guns firing at the gaff to-day was taken by many to mean that the vessels were under orders to go to sea. We have been informed that "Old Glory" was so elevated while the Jackstaffs on the ships were being painted.

A MEETING of the Hongkong Odd Volumes will be held at St. Andrew's Hall, City Hall, this evening at 9.30. There will be experiments in electrical discharge and exhibitions of phonograph, graphophone and microscope. Ladies are invited to attend and members may ask their friends.

THE latest news, "Come inside!" is taken from one of Phil May's pictures in London *Press* of a lunatic looking out of a window of an insane asylum at a man fishing. "How long have you been fishing?" asks the lunatic. "Six hours," says the fisher. "And what have you caught?" "Nothing." "Then come inside," says the madman; and now that catch has superseded the "Oh, you're dolly," which was used so liberally in London society and was soon made into evidence on Queen's Read, and the pukka cooler in the Supreme Court and most of the business places are again at work, doing their best to ameliorate the very sudden change in the climate con itics of this "happy island."

THE American nation still maintains its supremacy as the most fertile of all in original inventions. An American paper says, in all seriousness,—Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who was rescued from the Chinese Embassy in London in 1896, has been handed over to the Chinese Government by the British authorities. Hong Kong. Dr. Sun Yat Sen is a political refugee, and when he was turned out and detained at a Chinese Embassy the English Government speedily insisted on his release, Lord Salisbury sending a strong note to the Celestial Ambassador. When released this learned Chinese doctor, believing himself safe on British soil, went to Hong Kong and continued his propaganda against the dynasty of his native land. Now that the Chinese have him, it is suggested that he will be boiled in oil. The cream of the joke is that he never came back here at all but stopped at Yokohama, in perfect safety.

REMARKS to the opening of the new treaty ports the *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—

"Of the three ports, that of Chin-wang-tai, better known as Tsin-tang, to be opened as soon as the Customs preliminaries, can be got through, is the one which most interests us, and it may possibly prove a very important and valuable station in due time to come. It is opening as a treaty port, of course, of great moment to the Engineering and Mining Company, who have, we believe, long been working to bring this about; and Iassimach as it will probably lead to regular steam services throughout the winter it is of great importance to us too. It will be connected by rail not only with Pekin, but with the great Siberian railway, and later with the great trunk line which will run directly across the entire east coast of China, including Shanghai in its course and bringing up only at Canton. A Treaty port thus connected and with an open sea-board has great possibilities in store for it."

A SUNKEN accident occurred on H.M.S. *Frigate* at Shanghai on the 11th April. It is the custom on this vessel to exercise the men in sail drill every Monday morning, and on the 11th, after unbending the fore-topgallant and reading down the yard, was being sent up to its proper place when the wire stop carried away and the yard fell on to the deck among the men engaged in hoisting it into position. Smith, who is leading seaman, jumped clear with the rest, but the end of the yard caught his leg, ploughing it down the thigh to the heel, the bone of which was pounded to pieces. The unfortunate man stood for an instant, apparently being stunned by the injury, and then he was taken forward by his fellow seamen. The ship's doctor had just before gone ashore and medical assistance was sent for from the P. & O. steamer *Perseus*, whose doctor was very quickly in attendance. By this time the *Frigate's* doctor had returned. It was found that Smith had received very serious injuries which will incapacitate him from duty for a long time. The yard was caught in falling by some of the hoisting gear; otherwise it is highly probable that five or

THE RUSSIAN MENACE IN CHINA.

[Conclusion.]

CHAPTER V.

[Specially written for the Hongkong Telegraph.]

In South-East Europe, it is well-known that for many years past Russia has coveted the possession of Constantinople and when we consider her geographical position we cannot be surprised at it. If we ourselves were shut in as Russia is and unable to send a single warship through the Dardanelles without the permission of another Power we at all do all we could to get such a state of things altered in our favour and it is only natural that Russia should do the same.

It seems to us that provided we obtain suitable compensation for our displeasure, we might agree to Russia's endeavouring to get possession of Constantinople whenever she feels herself strong enough to make the attempt.

Many people will say that if she obtains possession of it she would at once so fortify the straits as to make them virtually impassable for hostile ships and that it would constitute a serious menace to our position in the Mediterranean. To this we would reply that it is highly probable that Russia would endeavour to make herself as secure as possible in her new possession and that she would be very foolish if she did not. But to talk of the Russian possession of Constantinople as in itself constituting a menace to us in the Mediterranean, is to totally misunderstand the position. The conversion of Constantinople into a first class arsenal and fortress and naval port, would not of itself make any difference whatever to our position in the Mediterranean.

It will be said that, in the event of war Russia could suddenly send her Black Sea fleet into the Mediterranean to assist France, for example. So she would and moreover she would probably do the same thing if war broke out tomorrow, without the possession of Constantinople for she would probably have an understanding with Turkey to this effect, or else without it and send her fleet through in defiance of the Turks, who would not be likely to go to war with Russia in consequence and would therefore content themselves with a protest.

If, however, we had a fleet in the Mediterranean superior to the French and Russian fleets combined, the entry of the Russians into the Mediterranean would not matter to us as it would meet our superior fleet there and would be attacked and defeated before it could effect a junction with the French. But even if the French and Russians joined forces, as long as our Mediterranean squadron was superior to that of our combined enemies, they would be met, attacked and destroyed in the end and the Mediterranean would then become virtually a British lake and would be perfectly secure for our own ships and those of our friends, while it would be interdicted to our enemies.

Some critics may object that it is possible that war might break out suddenly, when our Mediterranean squadron was inferior in strength to the combined French and Russians and would be liable to be attacked and defeated before reinforcements could reach it. To this objection we would reply that that is precisely the position at the present day, before Russia has obtained Constantinople and that is the reason why, of recent years, our Channel Squadron has been sent to cruise along the coast of Spain and Portugal and in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar, so that things would not be altered in any way. We admit that a certain amount of time is involved by such a distribution and the Admiralty would do well to see that our Mediterranean Squadron is always superior in strength to that of the next two strongest naval powers in that sea. At present, we believe, the reason that it is not so is partly due to that old bogle, the fear of offending "foreign susceptibilities," and partly because the resources of the Malta dockyard are not sufficient to meet the requirements of so large a fleet.

So far as "foreign susceptibilities" go, we would boldly disregard them and do what we consider best in order to safeguard our own rights, for foreigners have never been particularly considerate of our "susceptibilities" and these is no reason why we should be of theirs.

As regards the inadequacy of the resources of Malta, it is understood that the dockyard there is being strengthened in men and materials, while in a few years Gibraltar will supplement it so that very soon there will be no reason whatever why our Mediterranean Squadron should not be superior in strength to those of any two possible antagonists in those waters.

In return for our undertaking not to oppose the Russian acquisition of Constantinople, we might very well require Russia, in the first place, to recognise our Protectorate, or annexes of Egypt and secondly not to oppose our endeavours to obtain one of the islands of the Greek Archipelago—either Lemnos or Mytilene or whatever island our naval strategists consider most suitable—for the purposes of a naval station, which we should fortify strongly and which would form an admiralty station from which our ships could watch the entrance of the Dardanelles. It should be well situated with coal and other supplies for our fleet and in such a case we could afford to view the Russian possession of Constantinople with indifference.

Alexandria also should be converted into a naval station with a fortified harbour and well equipped with docks and every facility for the repair and refit of our ships. Then with Gibraltar, Malta and Alexandria, thoroughly well equipped as dockyards and Lemnos or Mytilene as a fortified anchorage and coal depot in the immediate vicinity of the Dardanelles, we should hold an incomparable advantage over any other Power.

Russia would probably build ships than the next two strongest naval Powers in Europe, it would not, however, be the last.

Whether an understanding with Russia could be arrived at on somewhat similar terms as we have sketched in outline we do not know but it is at least worth while making the attempt and if it succeeded, we believe that it would do more to safeguard our manifold interests all the world over than any other combination. If it did not succeed, then we might fall back on the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria, and Italy, who would no doubt gladly welcome our cooperation.

Whatever we do, however, should be done quickly, for we consider that our old policy of isolation is most dangerous, exposes us to the risk of a powerful combination against us and should therefore be abandoned without delay.

Finally we should recall that while we have a number of delicate questions awaiting settlement with France in West Africa, Egypt, Newfoundland, Madagascar and other places, and have still to contend with German influences in the Transvaal, where President Kruger is again showing his desire to throw off our suzerainty, we have now no serious questions pending with Russia, except her advance in China, which is undoubtedly a source of great danger to us both commercially and politically, unless we either have a complete understanding with her, or else make a powerful combination against her, or her subsequently ally France, strong enough to prevail against them both, not only in the Far East, but all over the world. Therefore, in endeavouring to find some arrangement to be the result of our negotiations with Russia,

we hope our rulers will arrange some such combination without loss of time, for we have conclusively shown that our present policy of isolation is fraught with grave peril to us and if we are too long in making up our minds as to what shall take its place, we shall find that we are too late and that one more has to be added to the long list of neglected opportunities.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

MORE FILTH!

To the Editors of the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH." Sir,—I have just returned from a short tour in the province of Kwangtung and got through several copies of your popular journal. It is one of them I find a leading article based upon the complaint of a resident of Ladder Street or its immediate vicinity. I know the distinct menstices concerning the houses in Bridges Street and the revolting filth that has accumulated at the foot of Mr. Chater's garden. The one-story houses in Bridge Street are a disgrace to the Colony. They were a hot-bed of plague in 1894 and should be destroyed, preferably by fire.

You are, I see, doing good work in showing up the carelessness of the unaccustomed members of the Sanitary Board, by publishing the evidence obtained by your reporters of the indecently filthy condition of the "lacermost recesses" of D'Aguilar and Wellington Streets and Queen's Road Central. It is to be hoped that your sharp-eyed and keen-sighted "pencillers" will go right ahead on this lay and rest not until the disgraceful condition of the Colony is thoroughly exposed. It may be unpleasant news for property-owners, but the truth should out. One would have thought the shocking state of affairs revealed in the course of the 1894 epidemic would have been carefully guarded against in the future, but as the Sanitary Board has "slumbered on," has made a great deal of talk and feint, and done just enough to lull certain classes into a sense of security that was neither justified by circumstances or facts—has, in fact, put the public off its guard—it is indeed to be fervently hoped that you will continue to lay bare before the whole world the mischief that the Board by its carelessness has caused and in defense of the general public and for the protection of our vast shipping trade an growing commerce as "vour to bring to life the "dry bones" of the Ratepayers' Association. It is abundantly clear that the Ratepayers are in need of some means of being heard through their own representatives and that concerted efforts should be put forth to keep a check on the acts and the slothfulness of Sir W. Robinson's very own Sanitary Board. 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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

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A. S. MIHARA,

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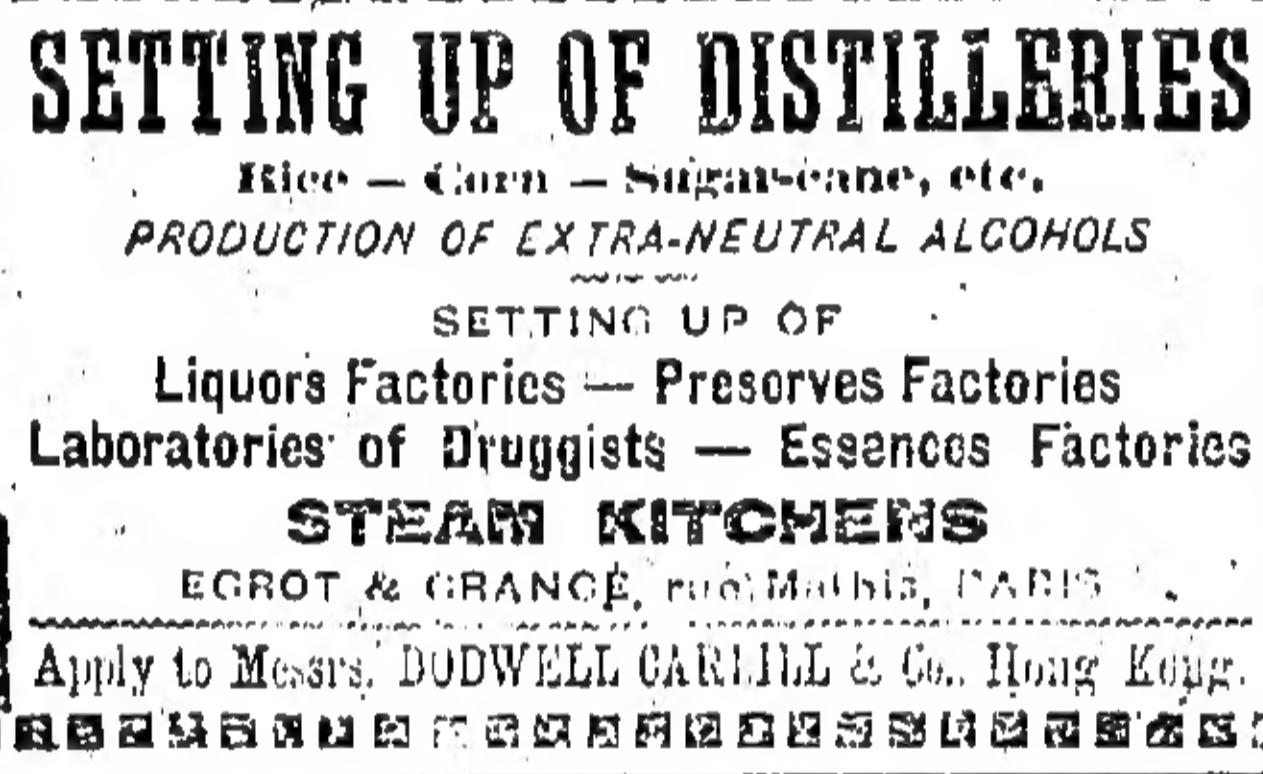
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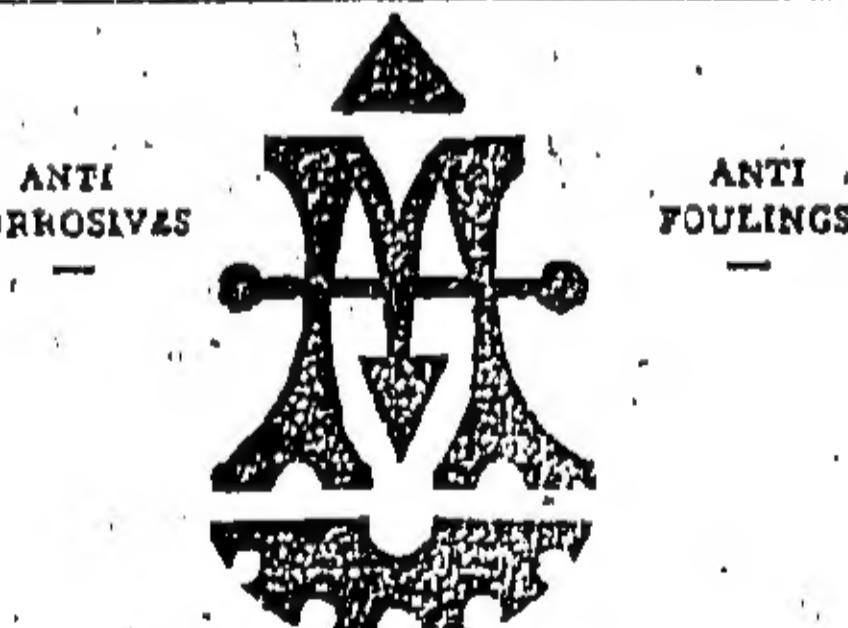
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Hongkong, 19th April, 1898.

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OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

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Hongkong, 19th April, 1898.

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[154]

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